Message Text

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R 151537Z APR 76 FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4458 INFO AMCONSUL IBADAN AMCONSUL KADUNA

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FOR MEPD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BENC, ENRG, EQIP, NI

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT: SHIRORO HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

SUMMARY: THIS IS EARLY WARNING THAT 360 MILLION DOLLARS SHIRORO HYDRO-ELECTRIC STATION PROJECT NEAR KADUNA IS NEARING PRE-QUALIFICATION STAGE FOR EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS. INFORMATION IS FOR BACKGROUND USE ONLY AT PRESENT SINCE PREMATURE PUBLICITY MIGHT JEOPARDIZE AMERICAN CONSULTANTS, CHAS.T. MAIN INTERNATIONAL, BOSTON. END SUMMARY

1. PROJECT BACKGROUND: SHIRORO HYDROELECTRIC STATION PROJECT MIDWAY BETWEEN KADUNA AND MINNA IS VALUED IN 1975-80 DEVELOPMENT PLAN AT 362 MILLION DOLLARS OF WHICH ENGINEERING AND CIVIL WORKS DURING PLANS PERIOD ESTIMATED AT 233 MILLION DOLLARS. TARGET DATE IS 1982. STATION WILL HAVE CAPACITY OF ABOUT 300 MW. IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT TARGET DATE WILL BE ADVANCED TO 1980 DUE NIGERIA'S DESPERATE NEED FOR ELECTRIC POWER AND POSSIBLE THAT RECENT DECISION BUILD NEW CAPITAL CITY NEARBY MAY ENLARGE PROJECT. CHARLES T. MAIN INTERNATIONAL, PRUDENTIAL CENTER, BOSTON, ONE YEAR AGO WAS NAMED CONSULTING ENGINEER ON PROJECT TO REVIEW FEASIBILITY, DESIGN PROJECT AND OVERSEE CONSTRUCTION.

2. ERNEST RINGLE, NEW CHARLES T. MAIN LAGOS REPRESENTATIVE, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STATES THAT PROJECT NOW IN DESIGN STAGE WITH CONSTRUCTION PHASE

TO BEGIN 1977. COMPLETION HOPED FOR IN 1980 RATHER THAN PLAN'S DATE OF 1982. PROJECT SHOULD RECEIVE HIGH PRIORITY BECAUSE INADEQUATE POWER SUPPLY IS BECMING MAJOR OBSTACLE COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT AND EFFICIENCY. RINGLE SAID NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY (NEPA) HAS DELEGATED TO MAIN PREQUALIFICATION OF SUPPLIERS AND RECENTLY ASKED THAT FIRM BEGIN QUALIFYING SUPPLIERS OF ELECTRO-MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT. RINGLE SUGGESTED THAT TO AVOID OFFENDING GOVERNMENT SENSIBILITIES NEPA FIRST PUBLICIZE PROJECT AND SAYS THIS WILL BE DONE THROUGH PRESS RELEASE NEXT FEW WEEKS AFTER WHICH PREQUALIFICATION WILL BEGIN. REGARDING CONSTRUCTION, HE ESTIMATES THAT PREQUALIFICATION WILL BEGIN NEXT JANUARY.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: BELIEVE MAIN DOING MOST OF ITS WORK IN BOSTON. SUGGEST MEPD CONSULT MAIN (PROJECT MANAGER A YEAR AGO WAS MR. N.P. TRIANO) FOR DETAILS REGARDING EQUIPMENT AND TO DETERMINE BEST WAY TO ALERT POTENTIAL SUPPLIERS. EASUM

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: EQUIPMENT, CONSTRUCTION, HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANTS, COST ESTIMATES

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SHIŔORO

TAGS: BENC, ENRG, EQIP, NI

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006